

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

March 16, 2004

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

FROM: Jackie W. Jones, Program Manager for

Commercial Availability Reviews (202-205-3466; jones@usitc.gov)

SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Apparel of Flannel Fabrics

(Investigation No. 332-458-005)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the CBTPA on apparel of flannel fabrics.¹ The fabrics are classified in HTS subheading 5208.43.00 and are lightweight, cotton, yarn-dyed woven flannel fabrics made of 14 through 41 NM single ring-spun yarns and constructed in a 2x1 twill weave.

The petition was filed by Dillard's, Inc., Little Rock, AR, and BWA, Inc., New York, NY, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on March 4, 2004. The petition alleges that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-458, Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2004): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by April 15, 2004, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3 copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by April 2, 2004. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the

¹ The CBTPA is the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act.

Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which was published in the *Federal Register* of February 9, 2004 (69 F.R. 6003) and posted on its website at http://www.usitc.gov/invfrn.htm#332.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Cynthia Trainor (202-205-3354; trainor@usitc.gov). Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Manager (see above) and from its website at www.usitc.gov/332s/shortsup/shortsupintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/Commercial Availability.htm.